

Vol. III 2006-2007

Edition I September 2006

Upcoming Events

CCBD Conference

The CCBD Conference will be held at the Dixie Center in St. George on Sept. 28-29. Rooms are available at the Budget Inn & Suites and the Crystal Inn. Visit www.updc.org and click on the CCBD link for additional conference and registration information. You can also contact Anthony Done (435) 678-1200 for more information.

Charter School Roundtable

The Charter School Roundtable schedule for 2006-2007: Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 2, April 6

All sessions will be held from 12:30 pm-4 pm at the Jones Center, 382 e. Baird (3605 S), SLC

2nd Annual Summit on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Mark your calendars! The 2nd Annual Summit on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders will be held on Tuesday October 17th. We are hoping to have many educators attend this year and we will have a planning session in the afternoon just for educators.

Deaf Education Summit

The Second Annual Deaf Education Summit will be held on **November 17-18, 2006.** The Yarrow in Park City is the site for the summit. Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing across the state are invited to attend. The theme for the conference will be using technology to teach the deaf and hard of hearing students, and many other pertinent topics. Watch for a "Call for Presenters" giving the opportunity to showcase your programs for the deaf and hard of hearing.

<u>Utah's Early Childhood Special</u> <u>Education Conference</u>

"Seeing the Big Picture-Working and Growing Together"

Spectacular opportunity for:

Head Start

Early intervention

Preschool special education

Parents

Related servers

Para-educators

Title 1

Community preschools

When: October 26-27, 2006 at the Provo

Marriott

Seats are going fast registration closes October

2nd

Register now for the conference of the year at www.updc.org just click on conferences

For more information contact Terri Mitchell at (801)272-3431 or Connie Nink at (801)538-7948.

<u>June 2007 Literacy/tiered instruction</u> conference

SAVE THE DATE!!! The June 2007 Literacy/Tiered Instruction Conference will be held June 11-13, 2007 at the Provo Marriott

Interpreter Video Conference

There will be a statewide "Video Conference" for interpreters for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing on **Saturday October 28, 2006.** This is a full day training on the Educator Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) and will be broadcast from Boy's Town Medical Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska. We will have seven locations across the state to take advantage of this great opportunity for interpreters to hone their skills. Sponsored by USOE and MPRRC we encourage all districts to use this conference to help alleviate the shortage of qualified interpreters.

Upcoming Events (cont.)

<u>Focus Group for Teachers of Severe</u> **Disabilities**

Each district will have an opportunity to send a representative to a focus group for those who work with students with severe disabilities. We will meet three times this year: October 27, 2006, January 19, 2007, and May 11, 2007. These focus groups will be held from 11:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. at the USOE. Watch for more information coming to a computer near you!

Special Health Care Needs Training

There will be four <u>Special Health Care Needs</u> <u>Technical Assistant Manual</u> trainings. They will be on the following dates:

North: October 19 @ the USDB in Ogden South: October 20 TBA (Possible SEDC)

East: October 24 @ USOE

West: October 25 TBA(Possible Uintah)
We will be focusing on the information that is new, and some of the other changes that have been made to the document. Poly com will be available upon request for these meetings.

Manuals will be available for those who attend. We would like each building to have their own copy, so a representative would be able to pick these up at that time as well. Put this on your calendar!

Utah Preschool Outcomes Data (UPOD)

Preschool accountability is here and it starts this year. Starting the 2006-2007 school year all LEAs must collect data on preschool students with IEPs as they enter and exit preschool special education programs. For more information or for training on UPOD please contact Connie Nink, Preschool 619 Coordinator, at connie.nink@schools.utah.gov or call (801)-538-7948.

<u>Letters of Intent &</u> Proposals

Annual Request for Letters of Intent & Proposals on the USOE Priorities for Improving Results for Children with Disabilities will be published September 15, 2006. Projects are available for 1) special education personnel preparation for special education teachers and related servers and 2) Access to the General Curriculum Projects. Letters of Intent are due December 1, 2006. Full Proposals will be due January 26, 2007. Additional information is available at http://www.schools.utah.gov/sars/default.htm or contact bruce.schroeder@schools.utah.gov.

Accommodation Trainings

It is important to become familiar with the new accommodations policy since assessment answer documents (bubble sheet) will now have accommodations listed. Any districts or charter schools who would like training on the new accommodations policy manual contact Wendy Carver at wendy.carver@schools.utah.gov 801-538-7639 - office 801-440-7207 - cell.

USOE Semester Credit

There have been some changes concerning USOE semester credit. In the past, half credits were given to those earning semester credits. We are now able to only give full credits, which require at least 14 hours of attendance.

Also, within the next year, CACTUS ID numbers, rather than Social Security numbers, will be required to enter USOE semester credit information into CACTUS. Those earning USOE semester credit need to memorize their CACTUS number to ensure that they will get the credit they deserve.

<u>Tutoring Programs</u>

Student Tutoring Achievement for Reading (STAR) is a new tutoring program that provides students with additional reading practice aligned with the Utah Core Curriculum, research-based practices, and classroom instruction. Lessons focus on phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, and high frequency sight words. STAR is designed to be used in one-on-one tutoring with adult volunteers or paraprofessionals. We will be introducing STAR Advanced in grades 4-6 in the spring of 2007.

The newest addition to the tutoring program is the STAR Parent Manual. The manual will benefit parents who would like to help their children at home. A Spanish section has been added at the end for parents who are working to learn the English language.

The Cross-age tutoring program was introduced in spring of 2006. This is a one-on-one reading program with older students acting as tutors. We are pleases that so many schools are going to use the program.

Training for all three tutoring programs will be scheduled throughout the year. Training dates can be found on the STAR/Cross-age web site located at:

 $\frac{\text{http://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/STAR/default.h}}{\text{tm}}$

For more information, contact Sue Okroy, Tutoring Program Specialist at the Utah State Office of Education.

<u>Susan.okroy@schools.utah.gov</u> or phone 801-538-7765.

HQT Deadline Extended!

USOE Educator Quality Services has extended the deadline for meeting the Highly Qualified Teacher deadlines to September 30, 2007. Those of you who provided verbal and written feedback to the USOE at the HQT forums made a good case since the June 30, 2006 deadline has come and gone. Thanks to all.

Leaders in Special Education

CASE Leadership

Lorna Larson, President – South Sanpete Ellen Stantus, President Elect - Davis Ann Miller, Secretary/Treasurer – Weber

LEAD Leadership

Kathryn McCarrie, Leader - Granite Taryn Kay, Leader elect – Grand Doelene Pitt, Secretary – Tooele

New Special Education Directors

Larry Seely – North Sanpete Kendall Torgerson – Piute Randy Schelble – Salt Lake City Wendy Bills - Murray

Literacy Grants 2006-07

Beehive Elementary (Granite District) City Academy (Charter School) Country View (Weber District) SLP/Preschool (Davis District) Salt Lake District (5 middle schools) Harvest Elementary (Alpine District) Heritage Elementary (Davis District) Hurricane Intermediate (Washington District) Jordan School District Majestic Elementary (Weber District) Midland Elementary (Weber District) Monticello High School (San Juan) Mountain View Elementary (Box Elder) Navigator Pointe Academy (Charter School) Nebo School District Sevier School District Weber School District West Haven Elementary (Weber District)

Model Site Schools 2006-07

Fremont Elementary (Davis District) Cook Elementary (Davis District) Parley's Park Elementary (Park City District) Green Acres (Weber District)

Latest News on Font &

Latest news from the American Printing House for the Blind:

All readers read more efficiently if the font is sans serifs such as: Arial, Tahoma, Verdana, or Antique Olive. Verdana is the best available font. Times New Roman has serifs and is difficult to read with efficiency.

Headings: 32 pt or larger for power point and 22 pt or larger for web pages; Subheadings:30 pt or larger for power point and 20 pt or larger for web pgs;Text: 28 pt or larger for power point and 18 pt or larger for web pages.

Avoid *italics*, if possible. Better choices are: <u>Underscoring</u>, "enclosing in quotation marks," or **bolding.**

Email & Power Point Presentations should be on plain backgrounds (no design to interfere with the text).

When using color, high contrast is the best. Avoid overuse of blue screens on power point presentations or web pages as it will make the eyes do eight times as much work as black, yellow or pink. Blue screens can cause glare problems, headaches and photophobia in persons with low vision.

For more information, contact Wendy Carver at wendy.carver@schools.utah.gov

Website Updates

The IDEA 2006-2007 tables are now up and on our website. The IDEA 2004 2006-2007 LEA Application is also on our Website. Included as well on the website is a memo from Nan Gray about the application. The deadline for submitting this application is October 20, 2006. If you submit your application with your districts consolidated application, please let Sandy Cox or myself know so we can go into your district application and extract the special education portion of the application. Sandy Cox 538-7569 Cal Newbold 538-7724 or via Email.

Indicator 14

Indicator 14 of the State Performance Plan requires that states report the percentage of students who have had IEPs and have left school, and have been employed or enrolled in post-secondary education programs at any time during the previous year. Student "leavers" are those who have either graduated with a diploma, reached maximum age, dropped out during the school year, or did not return to school for the current year. USOE-SpEd has developed a telephone survey that will be administered to all students over 14, who were served under IEPs and exited during the 2005-06 school year or who failed to return for the 2006-07 school year. While many states are requiring that LEAs conduct exit interviews to gather demographic information on these students. Utah has decided to use information from the SCRAM. Consent to participate in the telephone survey will be obtained as follows: individuals age 18 and older who participate in the survey will be considered to have given passive consent; parents/guardians will be asked to participate in telephone surveys for those individuals under age 18 and for those who are unable to respond to the survey due to the severity and type of disability.

Data will be collected by a contractor from April to September 2007 and reported in the Annual Performance Report due February 1, 2008. Disaggregated LEA data is required to be posted on the USOE SpEd website in Spring, 2008; data from LEAs with small numbers of "leavers" will be aggregated to avoid posting personally identifiable information.

For further information or a copy of the telephone survey, please contact Susan Loving at 801-538-7645 or susan.loving@schools.utah.gov.

Extended Year Program Reports

Extended Year Program Reports are due on September 30, 2006. The report form was sent out via Email on September 5, 2006. I need a report from each district and Charter school even if you did not provide services during the summer months. Put a zero on the report and send it back to me if you had no program. I do not need a school by school breakdown in each district. A total of students served and an average of days held and an average of hours your program was held will do.

IDEA High Cost Risk Pool

IDEA High Cost Risk Pool funds will also be available this coming year. You need to begin setting up your data collection system now so that you have good data at years end. The amount of money will be slightly less than last year. The amount for 2006-2007 school year will be \$983,267. The State Board of Education is considering a building block recommendation to increase STATE funding for the low incident, high cost students with disabilities as well. We hope this becomes one of their priorities and is funded by the legislature.

Transfer Students

Eligible students transferring between districts or charter schools within the state of Utah:
Receiving LEA must provide comparable services until the LEA either adopts the current IEP or assembles an IEP team for the student and develops a new IEP.

Eligible students transferring from another state or country to the state of Utah:
Receiving LEA must provide comparable services until the LEA conducts an evaluation, if necessary and either adopts the current IEP or develops a new IEP. If the LEA determines evaluation is necessary, permission to evaluate must be obtained and the 60 day timeline applies. In this case, eligibility determination should be considered initial eligibility in the state of Utah.

Clarification of Due Process Procedures and Procedural Safeguards Notice

Parents must be provided procedural safeguards only once per year, except that safeguards must always be provided upon parent request, initial referral, parent request for an evaluation and the first occurrence of filing a complaint during the current school year.

Procedural safeguards must include requirements for due process hearing request, time period in which to make a complaint, the opportunity for the agency to resolve the complaint, the availability of mediation, and the time period in which to file civil actions.

Formal State Complaints and Requests for Due Process Hearings must be submitted to the LEA and to the USOE. If only the LEA receives the complaint, the LEA could: 1) immediately notify the USOE and fax a copy to the office or, 2) inform the complainant that the complaint must also be filed with the state and provide them with contact information if necessary. The 60 day timeline begins when the USOE receives and date stamps the complaint. If the USOE receives the complaint, the USOE will immediately notify the LEA and provide a copy if needed.

When USOE receives an informal complaint or any communication pertaining to LEAs, the USOE will notify the LEA as soon as possible. The USOE always encourages, but cannot require, complainants to contact their LEA to attempt resolution of the issue at the local level.

Mediation is available at any point in any dispute. There is no requirement for exhaustion of administrative remedies except that filing in State or Federal Court is only available as an appeal from the decision of a Due Process Hearing Officer.